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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/978,593	10/18/2001	Nana K. Ayisi	S&B-C161	5237

30132 7590 08/09/2004  
GEORGE A. LOUD  
3137 MOUNT VERNON AVENUE  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22305

EXAMINER

WINKLER, ULRIKE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1648

DATE MAILED: 08/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/978,593

Applicant(s)

AYISI, NANA K.

Examiner

Ulrike Winkler

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 April 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 20,22,31 and 32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20,22,31 and 32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 October 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### DETAILED ACTION

The Amendment filed April 21, 2004 in response to the Office Action of October 21, 2003 is acknowledged and has been entered. Claims 19, 21, 23-30 have been cancelled. Claims 31 and 32 have been added. Claims 20, 22, 31, 32 are pending and are currently being examined.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office Action.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

The rejection claims 19-22 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for inhibiting HIV viral replication in Vero cells and in Molt4 clone 8 cells with an extract of *O. gratissimum*, does not reasonably provide enablement for the *O. gratissimum* extract to inhibit HIV viral replication in a mammal or in any other cell line. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to practice the invention commensurate in scope with these claims **is maintained** for reasons of record.

Applicant's argument has been fully considered but is not deemed persuasive. Applicant argues that the claims as amended are directed only to subject matter, which Applicant alleges is enabled in the specification. The specification is enabled for the treatment of HIV infected cells when they are in found in a tissue culture plate (petri dish) *in vitro*. The claims as amended are not limited to the treatment of HIV infected cells *in vitro*, the claims broadly interpreted can include the treatment of cells as they are found in an individual and for this the specification is not enabled. Therefore, the instant invention remains rejected as not being enabled for using an

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*O. gratissimum* extract for the treatment of a virus infected cell that can be found in an individual. The specification does not provide sufficient guidance for the inhibition of a HIV viral infection in a patient with a *O. gratissimum*. There is not indication that high enough concentrations of the compound can be achieved in the patient to effect the viral replication *in vivo*. It is not a straightforward process to go from *in vitro* data to an *in vivo* treatment. Thus, the lack of working examples regarding treatment of HIV infection in a patient, the lack of guidance in the specification, and the unpredictability regarding extrapolating *in vitro* data to an *in vivo* treatment method greatly reduces the probability that one of skill in the art would successfully obtain the claimed invention without undue experimentation.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The rejection of claims 19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by El-Said et al. (Planta Medicine, 1969) **is maintained** for reasons of record.

Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but are not deemed persuasive.

Applicant argues is that the claims as amended are limited to the treatment of HIV infected cells *in vitro*. However, the claims broadly interpreted can include the treatment of cells as they are found in an individual. Applicant also argues that the cited reference does not teach each an every element of the claim, specifically, the inhibition of the cytopathic effects of a virus inside a cell. The mere recitation of newly-discovered function or property, inherently possessed by things in the prior art, does not cause the claim drawn to those things to distinguish over the prior art (See *In re Best, Bolton, and Shaw* 195 USPQ 430 (CCPA 1977), *In re Schreiber* 44 USPQ2d 1429).

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In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., *in vitro*) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

The instant invention reads on treatment of a viral infection *in vivo* using an extract of *Ocimum gratissimum*.

El-Said et al. disclose that use of an extract of *O. gratissimum* has been used in Nigerian herbal medicine for the treatment of fevers (see abstract). Fever is a symptom that is associated with viral or bacterial infections. Therefore, the treatment of viral infection using an extract of *O. gratissimum* is anticipated by El-Said et al.

### ***Conclusion***

No claims allowed.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

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will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Papers related this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 1600 via the PTO Fax Center. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG (November 15, 1989). The Group 1600 Official Fax number is: (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Tech Center representative whose telephone number is (571)-272-1600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ulrike Winkler, Ph.D. whose telephone number is 571-272-0912. The examiner can normally be reached M-F, 8:30 am - 5 pm. The examiner can also be reached via email [[ulrike.winkler@uspto.gov](mailto:ulrike.winkler@uspto.gov)].

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Housel, can be reached at 571-272-0902.



ULRIKE WINKLER, PH.D.  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

8/6/04